

Message Text

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50

ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

ERDA-07 ERDE-00 ACDA-10 /082 W

----- 042875

P R 251030Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9726

INFO COMUSJAPN YOKOTA

CINCPAC

AMCONSUL NAHA

UNCLAS TOKYO 5560

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: MARR, JA

SUBJECT: NUCLEAR CONTROVERSY

1. ASAHI SHINBUN CARRIED FRONT PAGE STORY APRIL 25 TO EFFECT THAT AMERICAN AFFAIRS DIRECTOR GENERAL YAMAZAKI HAD TOLD DIET THAT US HAD CONFIRMED THAT 374 TACTICAL AIR WING AT KADENA CAPABLE OF CARRYING NUCLEAR WEAPONS. YAMAZAKI REPORTEDLY SAID THAT PRESENCE OF SUCH A UNIT DID NOT MEAN NUCLEAR WEAPONS ARE PRESENT, BUT THAT UNIT'S PRESENCE COULD BE CONSIDERED AN ELEMENT IN NUCLEAR DETERRENT CONTRIBUTING TO JAPAN'S DEFENSE.

2. YAMAZAKI STATEMENT WAS IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONING FROM JCP DIET MAN TACHIHI IN UPPER HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE. TACHIHI HAD OBTAINED COPY OF UNCLASSIFIED USAF DOCUMENTS CONCERNING 374TAW LOCAL OPERATING PROCEDURES INCLUDING REFERENCES TO QTE ROUTINE NUCLEAR SUPPORT MISSION PROCEDURES UNQTE, QTE SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS OZUA ROUTINE NUCLEAR AIRLIFT MISSION UNQTE AND QTE 374TH TAW NUCLEAR BRIEFING OFFICER UNQTE. TACHIHI HAD CHARGED WH THESE REFERENCES PROVED THAT NUCLEAR WEAPONS PRESENT IN JAPAN AND HAD DEMANDED THAT FONOFF SEEK CLARIFICATION FROM US SIDE.

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3. IN RESPONSE TO FONOFF QUERY, EMBASSY HAD PROVIDED

FOLLOWING: QTE THE ABILITY TO CARRY OUT A MISSION DOES NOT MEAN THAT IT IS BEING CARRIED OUT IN JAPAN OR ELSEWHERE. AS WE HAVE STATED BEFORE, USAF AIRCREWS AND ORGANIZATIONS MAY SERVE IN ALL AREAS OF THE WORLD. THEREFORE, THEY MUST MAINTAIN PROFICIENCY IN ALL POTENTIAL MISSIONS. THIS IN NO WAY IMPLIES THE PRESENCE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN JAPAN. UNQTE. FONOFF HAS INFORMED US THAT YAMAZAKI HAD STUCK TO THIS GENERAL LINE AND HAD NOT STATED THAT USG HAD CONFIRMED NUCLEAR CAPABILITY.
HODGSON

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